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BANCROFT
LIBRARY

BANCROFT
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THE LIBRARY
OF
THE UNIVERSITY
OF CALIFORNIA

PB

The Bancroft
Historical Library

W. B. Bancroft & Co's Print, 49 First St., S. F.

63189
BANCROFT LIBRARY

The BANCROFT HISTORICAL LIBRARY

The Bancroft Historical Library consists of some 43,000 volumes, including printed books, manuscripts, volumes and original documents, relating to the history of the westerly portion of North America. Consisting largely of original documents and manuscript volumes, it is incapable of being duplicated. There is a complete catalogue of this library on exhibition in the State Librarian's office, for the use of members of the Legislature.

No such complete collection of historical data and materials has ever been collected, with reference to one country, in the history of the world. It is widely known and appreciated by men of letters both in America and Europe.

The subject of the purchase of this library by the State has excited the liveliest interest amongst all classes of our population. As evidence of this, we submit the following petitions

ELEANOR C. DAVIDSON ESTATE DECEMBER 1945

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and memorials, the originals of which are now on file in the State Senate of California, expressing to the State Legislature the views of many of our most eminent citizens amongst the capitalists, merchants, manufacturers, professional and business men and literati not alone of this State.

The State should own its history. Other states and nations have galleries of art, historical museums, zoological gardens and libraries of history.

The State of California has begun a period of splendid growth. She may reasonably hope in the future to rank among the first of States. Why should she not do herself this honor?

The intense struggle for wealth in California needs the ameliorating influences of literature and art. They will relieve the pressure upon our prisons and asylums.

This library is marketable abroad, to go into some great university or national library.

But local state pride and self-respect demand that it remain here in the centre of the territory of which it is so magnificent a history.

That the price asked the State is a reasonable price is clearly shown by the appended appraisements and valuations.

It cannot be hoped that any merely literary proposition will be understood by, or meet with the approval of all. But the library is open to

and invites scrutiny, and is first offered to the State. If the State does not choose to buy it, we shall at least have done our patriotic duty in offering the opportunity.

THE HISTORY COMPANY,

N. J. STONE, *Manager.*

" *To the Legislature of California :*

" In view of the proposed sale of the collection " of some forty thousand Pacific Coast Books, " manuscripts, maps, pamphlets, and periodicals, " known as the Bancroft Library, gathered dur- " ing a period of thirty years at an expense of " over a quarter of a million of dollars, and con- " tained in the building on Valencia Street, San " Francisco, erected for that purpose, we, the " undersigned, recommend the purchase of the " same by the State, and for the following reasons:

" (1) It is the largest and most complete col- " lection of California historical data in existence.

" (2) It is the largest and most complete col- " lection of historical and judicial data relative " to the western half of North America, includ- " ing all of Mexico and Central America.

" (3) It is the largest and most complete col-

" lection of original historical data extant,
" concerning any state or nation in the world.

" (4) This invaluable material never can be
" purchased elsewhere; the collection never can
" be duplicated, a large portion of it having no
" existence elsewhere.

" (5) It is offered at a fair price.

" (6) The necessity having arisen which com-
" pels its sale, the collection will have to be sent
" away to New York or London and there dis-
" posed of if the State does not purchase it.

" (7) That such a vast store of knowledge,

" such a treasure-house of our country's accu-
" mulated experiences and development, such a
" treasure-house of history appertaining to this
" whole Coast from Alaska to Panama, covering
" an area of one-twelfth of the earth's inhabited
" surface, and the last that can be occupied by
" civilized man; that this should be allowed to
" go abroad, become scattered, and pass beyond
" the reach of California forever, would be a
" public calamity, a loss felt through all time,
" and regretted in ever increasing degree as time
" rolls by. It would be a lasting discredit to
" California, that having the control of what all
" the world might justly envy, and what no other

" nation of the earth could ever hope to attain;
" that having this priceless knowledge gathered
" for her from the four quarters of the globe and
" laid at her feet, a large portion of it having
" been actually rescued from oblivion, she should
" fail to secure and preserve it for the present
" and future generations.

"And your petitioners will ever pray."

Leading Bankers.

F. F. Low,
Manager Anglo California Bank

R. C. Woolworth,
of Crocker, Woolworth & Co.

Lloyd Tevis,
President Wells, Fargo & Co's Bank

Tallant & Co.,
Bankers

W. Powell,
Manager Bank of British Columbia

D. Callaghan,
Pres't First National Bank, of S. F.

C. H. Ramsden,
The California National Bank

Eugene Meyer,
London, Paris and American Bank

J. A. Donohoe,
Bankers

Sather & Co.,
Bankers

Wm. Lawson,
Agent Bank of British North America

Chas. Sutro,
Sutro & Co.

L. Gottig,
The German Savings and Loan Society

Adolph C. Weber,
Pres't Humboldt Savings and Loan Society

Ernest Brand,
Sec'y Humboldt Savings and Loan Society

Robert J. Tobin,
Hibernia Savings and Loan Society

D. C. McRuer,
Real Estate, 23½ Post Street

Belloc & Cie.,
Bankers, per H. Barroilhet

S. H. Bigelow,
Bay City Iron Works

P. Husson,
French Savings Bank

Jas. H. Goodman,
of J. H. Goodman & Co., Napa, Cal.

James G. Fair,
Security Savings Co.

Geo. T. Mayre, Jr.
Capitalist, 234 Montgomery Street

Judge John Currey,
Capitalist, 32 Merchants' Ex., Palace Hotel

E. J. Baldwin,
Capitalist

R. F. Bunker,
Capitalist

Daniel Meyer,
Capitalist

R. R. Thompson,
Banker and Capitalist

Edward Barrow,
Capitalist

Jas. Freeborn,
Capitalist

J. D. Fry,
Capitalist

W. H. Dimond,
Ag't P. M. S. S. Co.

Alfred H. Cohen,
Capitalist

Leading Merchants and Capitalists:

Wm. T. Coleman & Co.

Wm. N. Dunphy

Baker & Hamilton

Henry Vrooman

F. Barnard

J. D. S. La Montanya

Balfour, Guthrie & Co.,

Union Iron Works,
By H. T. Scott

Sam'l Blair

Miller & Lux
B. Dreyfus & Co.

Navarro Mill Co.,
By Robert G. Bryden

Jas. W. Phelan
J. W. Grace & Co.
Parrott & Co.
G. T. Lawton
Jas. M. Donahue
Moore & Smith
Renton, Holmes & Co.
J. C. Wilmerding
C. Deweese, Jr.
Russ, Sanders & Co.
Kittle & Co.
Hansen & Co.

W. J. Adams,
By E. P. Blake

John Dolbeer
For Starr & Co. H. M. A. Miller, Sec'y

Albert Dibblee
S. L. Jones
John W. Allyne
McCarthy Bros. & Co.
E. A. Fargo & Co.
Nicholas Luning
E. & S. Heller
Thomas Bell & Co.
Judson & Shepard

Macondray & Co.
A. J. Ralston
Reiss Bros. & Co.
Preston & McKinnon
Hinkley, Spiers & Hayes
Phœnix Iron Works
Scholler Bros.
Charles Webb Howard
H. Schussler
James R. Bolton
Wm. Nuns
Sisson, Crocker & Co.
Meyerstein & Lowenberg
L. W. Rosenstock & Co.
Mintz Nickelsberry
Charles Oppenheimer & Co.
Banner Bros.
Stein, Simon & Co.
Risdon Iron Works
Rankin, Brayton & Co.
Marshutz & Cantrell
H. P. Gregory
Joshua Hendy Machine Works
W. W. Montague
Livingston & Co.
Wm. Dunphy
Parke & Lacy
Pacific Saw Manufacturing Co.
Hecht Bros. & Co.

H. L. Dodge
Whittier, Fuller & Co.
Siegfried & Brandenstein
H. Levi & Co.
Coghill & Simon
California Hosiery Co.
Kohler & Frohling
Louis Sloss & Co.
Bauer Bros. & Co.
Goodall, Perkins & Co.
Greenebaum & Co.
A. S. Hallidie
Arpad Haraszthy
Geo. T. Hawley
W. R. S. Toye
Truman, Ishman & Hooker
Adam Grant
Greenbaum, Weil & Michels
H. M. Newhall & Co.
Neuburger, Reiss & Co.
Held Bros & Co.
Falkner, Bell & Co.
Buchanan Bros.
Albert Mau & Co.
Geo. W. Meade & Co.
And. Carrigan
B. F. Dunham
Wellman, Peck & Co.
Edward Kruse

G. M. Josselyn
W. P. Jones
Charles Holbrook
S. Lachman & Co.
Langley & Michaels
Levi Strauss
James O. Rountree & Sons
Lilienthal & Co.
Lachman & Jacobi
Tatum & Bowen
A. B. Elfelt & Co.
Lovell White
A. M. Simpson & Bros.

Root & Sanderson,
At what it is undoubtedly worth

C. E. Whitney & Co.
Yates & Co.
J. C. Merrill & Co.
Merry, Faull & Co.
E. L. G. Steele & Co.
W. B. Wilshire & Co.
Walter S. Newhall
Bothin Dallemand & Co.
Naane Mathers
J. N. Knowles
Ackerman, Block & Co.
John Taylor & Co.
Neustadter Bros.
Cahn, Nichelsberg & Co.

Brown Bros. & Co.
J. S. Bowman & Co.
F. Fillmann
James R. Kelly & Co.
William Wolff Co.
Brigham, Hoppe & Co.
Harmon & Dickson
L. & E. Wertheimer
Gage, Shattuck & Co.
Platshek & Harris
Nolan Bros.
Redington & Co.
Kohler & Van Bergen
Bujer & Reiche
H. T. Holmes
Kline & Cope
B. Blumenthal & Co.
W. Cohen & Co.
Martin Sachs & Co.
D. N. & E. Walter & Co.
Robert Haight & Co.
American Salt Co.
E. Guittard & Co.
Hammer, Leist & Co.
Davis Howell
E. R. Stevens
Geo. R. Starr & Co.
Code, Elfelt & Co.
Pacific Fruit Co.

Neville & Co.
John Cutting & Co.
S. & G. Gump

Leading Manufacturers and Capitalists:

W. T. Garratt
D. Henshaw Ward
Carolan, Cory & Co.
The John T. Cutting Co.
Coit & Folsom
Allen & Higgins Lumber Co.
Per F. H. Allen, Pres't.
Louis Braverman
D. E. Cotton,
C. Nutting & Son,
Thos. H. Selby & Co.
H. H. Bros.
American Oil Co.
Per Josiah O. Low, Sec'y.
Frank Brothers,
Arnold Hardware Co.
Per N. S. Arnold, President
Sperry & Co.
Deming Palmer Milling Co.
D. H. Vail, Sec'y
Siebe, Camp & Co.
Sinsheimer Bros.

Samuel Moore & Co.

E. B. Pond,
Mayor of San Francisco

William Cluff & Co.

Hooper & Jennings

Real Estate Owners, Dealers and Capitalists:

Bovee, Toy & Co.

Hurd, Umbsen & Co.

Madison & Burke

McAlester & Jones

McAffee Brothers

S. P. Middleton

Stauder & Shattuck

Chas. C. Fisher

Lowe & Kenny

J. B. Lewis & Son

Albert E. Crane

B. P. Oliver

C. H. Reynolds

O. D. Baldwin

John T. Little

S. Oesterreicher

Handley & Jones

I. Strassburger

David Stern & Son

Geo. W. Chapin

J. C. Green

Insurance Companies, Managers and Capitalists:

D. J. Staples,
President of Fireman's Fund Ins. Co.

Wm. Greer Harrison,
Manager of Thames and Mersey Marine Ins. Co. Limited

Gustave Touchard

Chas. A. Laton

J. F. Houghton

L. L. Bromwell

Hutchinson & Mann

Georg C. Boardman

Hugh Craig

Conrad & Maxwell

Jones & Eastman

Brown, Craig & Co.

J. B. Davis & Son

The California Ins. Co.

The Union Fire & Marine Ins. Co. of New Zealand

Westchester Ins. Co.,
A. C. Donnell, General Agent

Jabez Howes,
Manager of Union Mutual Life Ins. Co.

The New Zealand Loan & Mercantile Agency Co. L'd.,
Walter Lawry, Manager

Herbert Folger

Jones & Person

Edward L. Wood

Wm. D. Garland,
Manager of Equitable Life Assurance Society

F. R. Noyes,
Agent Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Co.

John H. Stevens,
Manager Ætna Life Insurance Co.

W. W. Haskell,
Gen'l Agent Traveler's Life Ins. Co. of Hartford, Conn.

Butler & Haldan

Brooks & Baldwin

A. J. Bryant

Manheim, Staples & Co., G. A.

C. F. Mullens

W. J. Callingham

Thos. C. Grant

Alexander Badlam

Wallace Everson

Chas. D. Haven

J. A. Patton,
Sec'y of The Pacific Mutual Life Ins. Co. of Cal.

Jno. R. Hillman

Harry W. Syz

J. W. Mailliard

Geo. D. Dornin

Hurschfield & Jacob

Smith & Moody

Henry K. Belden
N. W. Winton
M. J. Quirk
A. B. Forbes
Jas. R. Garniss
C. P. Farnfield
R. N. Dickson
Coffin & Sanderson
Page Brothers
Alex. G. Hawes
Snow & Pettis

Officers, Regents and Professors of the State University.

Edward S. Holden
President California State University

Bernard Moses
Professor of History and Political Economy

John LeConte
Professor of Physics, University of California

Joseph LeConte
Professor of Geology and Natural History

Wm. Carey Jones
Professor of Roman and Constitutional Law

George H. Howison
Mills' Professor of Intellectual and Moral Philosophy and Civil Polity

John F. Swift

Wm. T. Wallace

J. West Martin

At a fair price I am strongly in favor of the purchase of the Library by the State

C. B. Bradley
Assistant Professor of the English Language and Literature

F. H. Stoddard
Instructor of the English Language and Literature

Irving Stringham
Professor of Mathematics, University of Cal.

John B. Mhoon
Attorney for Board of Regents

George C. Edwards
Assistant Professor of Mathematics

J. C. Rowell
Librarian

W. B. Rising
Professor of Chemistry and State Analyst

Eug. W. Hilgard
Professor of Agriculture

Chas. A. Ramm
Recorder

F. W. Morse
Assistant in Agricultural Laboratory

J. J. Rivers
Curator of Museum

M. E. Jaffa
First Assistant, Viticultural Laboratory

J. E. Colby
Second Assistant, Viticultural Laboratory

Albert S. Cook
Professor of English Language and Literature

J. G. Heise
Professor of Mechanical Engineering

Eminent Clergymen

Horatio Stebbins

J. H. Prendergast
Vicar General of California

C. D. Barrows

Wm. Ingraham Kip
Bishop of California

N. L. Rowell

J. Movell

Robert Mackenzie

F. D. Bovard

Frank F. Jewell

John Q. Adams

S. P. Sprecher

William S. Neales

T. K. Noble

W. S. Urmy

Wm. C. Pond

G. L. Spining

C. V. Anthony

A. B. Mildrom

Geo. Burrows
Jas. Matthews
P. J. Grey
J. C. Eastman
A. L. Stone
Wm. W. Davis
M. M. Gibson
P. W. Riordan
Archbishop of San Francisco

Eminent Educators

James K. Wilson
John Swett
James Denman
Ira G. Hoitt
State Sup't of Public Instruction
A. Herbst
E. Knowlton
J. W. Anderson
City Supt. Schools
A. L. Mann
Reginald H. Webster
W. N. Birsh
Frank Morton
A. E. Kellogg
A. T. Winn
Albert Lyser
Silas A. White,
Principal Valencia School
Elisha Brooks

J. O. Connor
Dept. Supt. Commercial Schools

D. C. Stone
Ex. Dept. Supt. Schools

Andrew J. Moulder
Ex-Superintendent of Schools

Professor George Davidson

Judges and Attorneys

Lorenzo Sawyer
Judge U. S. Circuit Court

Jno. A. Stanly

M. H. Myrick
Justice Supreme Court

Ogden Hoffman
Judge U. S. District Court

G. Frank Smith

J. R. Sharpstein
Justice Supreme Court

Milton Andros

Hall McAllister

Jos. W. Winans

T. I. Bergin

W. C. Burnett

Jas. McM. Shafter

J. N. E. Wilson
State Senator

J. P. Hoge

Carroll Cooke

John H. Boalt
Jas. Thos. Boyd
Henry C. Dibble
John R. Jarboe

At its actual value

A. P. Van Duzer

A. A. Sargent
Ralph C. Harrison
E. B. Mastick
W. W. Cope
W. C. Belcher
Joseph D. Redding

At a fair valuation I think the State should purchase this most valuable collection of books and manuscripts.

R. A. Thompson
E. W. McKinstry

I am not fully advised as to the price proposed, but think the State should be the purchaser if possible.

John T. Doyle

I agree with Mr. Doyle

D. M. Delmas

Arthur Rodgers
Oliver P. Evins
John H. Dickinson
David McClure
Edward J. Pringle
Richard Tobin

Warren Olney

Sidney V. Smith

F. G. Newlands

I do not know at what price the offer of sale is made nor can I say what a fair price would be, but at a fair price the State should purchase the collection.

George R. B. Hayes

I think the library should be purchased by the State and heartily recommend purchase.

Selden S. Wright

I think the purchase should be made at a fair price. It is very important that the State should own this collection.

S. G. Hilbron
Chas. N. Fox
Jas. G. Maguire

At a fair price I think the purchase very desirable.

E. C. Marshall
E. D. Sawyer

I concur in what is above stated by Mr. Marshall

James D. Thornton

I agree with Mr. Marshall

Thomas B. Bishop
George Flournoy, Jr.
George E. Bates
W. F. Goad
Wm. H. Sharp

At a fair price I think the purchase advisable.

J. J. Scrivner
George Hearst, U. S. Senator
W. H. Creed
Wigginton, Creed & Hawes
Frank M. Stone
Patrick Reddy
S. B. McKee, Jr.

At a fair price I recommend the purchase.

A. Comte, Jr.
Wm. H. Sears
E. T. Preston

Yes, at a fair price.

M. M. Estee
Geo. A. Knight
Wm. W. Morrow
H. J. Tilden

I sincerely trust that this purchase may be made at what the property is reasonably worth.

T. K. Wilson
John F. Finn

The following is a Memorial signed by Prominent Officials, etc., of States and Territories adjacent to California.

To the Legislature of California:

Being informed that the Bancroft Library of Pacific Coast historical material is to be offered for sale to the State of California, we beg leave respectfully to express our high opinion regarding the importance and value of the collection to the entire country and to indulge in the hope that the same will be preserved as a whole to the people of this section for the purpose of permanent and general reference. We regard the collection of special value to Montana, as containing much historic material relating to our Territory, nowhere else in existence.

Helena, Montana.

Decius S. Wade,
Chief Justice of Montana.

Alex. C. Botkin
Samuel A. Balliet
R. Lockey
E. W. McNeal
W. E. Frederick
Massena Bullard.

Colorado.

Wilbur F. Stone
Ex-Justice Supreme Court

R. W. Woodbury
Pres. of Union Bank and Chamber of Commerce

Benjamin H. Eaton
Governor of Colorado

D. N. Moffat
Pres. of First National Bank of Denver, Col.

Wm. E. Beck
Chief Justice of Supreme Court

S. H. Elbert
Justice of Supreme Court

James A. Miller
Clerk of Supreme Court, Colorado

Jos. T. Boyd
Perrote Secretary

L. S. Cornell
Supt. Public Instruction

George C. Munson
Assayer in Charge, U. S. Mint

Jos. C. Helm
Justice Supreme Court

Theodore H. Thomas
Attorney General

James A. Dawson
U. S. Surveyor General

Melvin Edwards
Secretary of State

Hiram A. Spruance
Auditor of State

George R. Swallow
State Treasurer

Nevada.

J. W. Adams
Governor of Nevada

O. R. Leonard
Justice of Supreme Court

Jno. P. Jones
U. S. Senator

Idaho.

Edward A. Stevenson
Governor of Idaho

E. J. Curtis
Secretary of Idaho

Silas W. Moody,
Controller, Idaho Ty.

Dr. J. L. Stevens

Jos. Perrault
Territorial Treasurer

Alfred Eoff
Cashier, National Bank of Boise City

E. B. Tage,
County Treasurer, Ada Co.

Milton Kelly,
Idaho Statesman

B. S. Prickett
Probate Judge elect

T. J. Curtis
Probate Judge Ada County

C. S McConnell
Auditor and Recorder, Ada County

Malachi Krebs
Editor of *Idaho Statesman*

Dr. Ephriam Smith

Wm. H. Nye

D. P. B. Pride
Attorney-General of Idaho

A. G. Redway
Assistant Cashier First National Bank

Jas. A. Pinney
Ex-Mayor Boise City

Wm. B. Chandler
Ex-Surveyor General, Idaho

Utah.

Caleb W. West
Governor of Utah

Arthur L. Thomas
Secretary of State

Frank H. Dyer

C. C. Goodwin

William Nelson

Charles S. Zane

Thomas Marshall

E. A. Wall

R. C. Chambers

George R. Maxwell

C. W. Bennett

Eli H. Murray, Ex Governor

John R. McBride

B. G. Raybould

Two other Memorials will be of especial interest in this connection, and we append them as follows:

Memorial of Eminent Scientists in the employ of the U. S. Government at Washington, concerning the purchase of the Bancroft Historical Library by the State of California.

To the Legislature of California:

Understanding that the collection of books, pamphlets, periodicals, manuscripts, and maps, comprising the library of Mr. Hubert Howe Bancroft, of San Francisco, is to be disposed of by sale, the undersigned, impressed with the importance to Historical Science, of preserving the collection intact, would most respectfully recommend the purchase of the same by the State of California.

This unprecedentedly exhaustive collection of original material relating to the history, not only of the State of California, but of the Pacific Coast generally, including Mexico and Central America in their entirety, has been accumulated by indefatigable research, extending over a third of a century, and at a large expenditure of money;

and it can never be duplicated in whole or in great part. It is believed that it can be purchased at a fair price; and it would seem that the State of California cannot afford to see these treasures, now at her capital city, pass from her to be dispersed and lost forever. Let her secure for her archives these unique and inestimable sources of the history of her own rise and progress, and of the rise and progress of the States and countries about her, and she will have done a service to herself, to history, and to all mankind; and your petitioners will ever pray.

J. W. Powell,
Director of the U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.

Prof. O. C. Marsh,
Yale College.

Prof. Theo. Gill,
Columbian University.

Prof. G. K. Gilbert,
U. S. Geological Survey.

H. W. Henshaw.
In charge of Linguistic Division, Bureau of Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.

Prof. O. Mason,
Curator Department Ethnology, U. S. N. M., formerly of the Columbia University.

Prof. Lester F. Ward,
Geologist U. S. G. S.

Prof. F. W. Clarke,
Chief Chemist U. S. Geological Survey.

Prof. Wm. Harkness,
Professor Mathematics, U. S. Navy.

W. B. Powell,
Superintendent of Public Schools for the District of Columbia.

Prof. C. V. Riley,
Chief Entomologist Department of Agriculture, formerly Chief U. S. Entomological Commission, Entomologist, U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.

Wm. J. Rhees,
Chief Clerk Smithsonian Institution.

W. H. Holmes,
Geologist etc., U. S. Geol. Survey.

Edward D. Cope,
A. M. Ph. D., Member U. S. National Academy.

J. Belknap Marcon,
Dis. Geologist, U. S. G. S.

James Stevenson,
Executive Office, U. S. Geological Survey.

BANCROFT LIBRARY

Memorial of the Historical Society of Montana, in favor of the purchase by the State of California, of the Bancroft Historical Library.

The Historical Society of Montana, incorporated by the Legislative Assembly, February 2nd, 1865.

President—Wilbur F. Sanders,
Helena.

Vice-President—Granville Stuart,
Fort Maginnis.

Corresponding Secretary—William E. Cullen,
Helena.

Recording Secretary—Cornelius Hedges,
Helena.

Treasurer—Samuel L. Hauser,
Helena.

Librarian—William F. Wheeler,
Helena.

Helena, Montana, Dec. 3, 1886.

To the Legislature of the State of California:

Gentlemen:

The Historical Society of Montana, organized by virtue of an Act of the Legislative Assembly of this Territory, is engaged in collecting and collating historical data pertaining to the western regions of the United States.

Its members have been deeply impressed with the value of that collection of books and manuscripts gathered by Mr. Hubert Howe Bancroft, one of your own citizens, and are unitedly of the opinion that no such collection can be found elsewhere.

While Mr. Bancroft, with a generosity which could not be demanded, has placed the use of this collection in the hands of any society interested in historical inquiry, it can neither be expected nor hoped that such a collection should be proffered by a private citizen; and they are of the opinion that some organization or municipality should own it which will manage, preserve and protect it for public uses. The region of country to which our attention has been more particularly directed has not received that attention which its consequence demands; and this Society has been long engaged in gathering from remote regions whatever pertained to the early history of our northern possessions on either side of the Rocky Mountains.

We have been able to secure some data to St. Louis and other regions, but the industry and advantages of Mr. Bancroft have enabled him to obtain information, documents and manuscripts pertaining to this portion of our common country, in an abundance which far transcends our own.

This society feels deeply interested, therefore, that the manuscript and documents of Mr.

Bancroft's collection may find a permanent place in the public archives of your State, and we respectfully petition your Honorable bodies, if you deem it consistent with the public welfare, to procure this vast collection and to care for it for the use of all citizens of the United States who shall, in the years to come, desire to find something illustrative of the early history and settlement of the interior and western portions of our common country.

In thus addressing you, from a region somewhat remote from your own State, our apology and excuse must be that we have found in this collection much material which will enable us to trace the early enterprise of the pioneers of the west, who at one time or another experienced strange vicissitudes within the limits of what is now the Territory of Montana.

In behalf of the Historical Society of Montana, we have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servants,

W. F. Sanders,
President.

W. E. Cullen,
Corresponding Secretary.

Cornelius Hedges,
Recording Secretary.

The value of the Library is shown by the following certificates of appraisement, made by the best authorities accessible on this Coast.

Appraisement and certificate of value of the Bancroft Historical Library by the Librarians of the public libraries of California and others.

We, the undersigned, are of the opinion that the library of Pacific Coast books, maps, manuscripts, and files of periodicals in the possession of Hubert H. Bancroft, and contained in the building erected by him for the purpose, on Valencia Street, San Francisco, is worth the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and would be a fair and proper purchase on the part of the State of California at that price.

Jos. W. Winans.

Jno. S. Hager,
Collector of Port.

F. B. Perkins,
Librarian Public Library.

Alfred E. Whitaker,
Librarian Mercantile Library.

F. P. Deering,
Librarian Law Library.

George A. Carnes,
Librarian Odd Fellows' Library

Horace Wilson,
Librarian Mechanics' Library.

Horace H. Moore,
Ex. Librarian Mercantile Library.

T. H. Wallis,
State Librarian

J. C. Rowell,
Librarian State University.

E. S. Lippitt,
Sec. Trustees Petaluma Library.

I have very frequently consulted the Library in my studies and investigations.

Prof. George Davidson

Wm. Ashburner

Horatio Stebbins

Lorenzo Sawyer
(Judge U. S. Circuit Court.)

Ogden Hoffman
(Judge U. S. District Court.)

Jno. R. Jarboe

Ralph C. Harrison

As a sample of the practical utility of the original documents contained in this collection, we append a memorial of the U. S. District Attorney of California, concerning the use of original documents from the Bancroft Historical Library, in the trial of the recent case to determine the title to Mare Island.

San Francisco, Nov. 4, 1886.

To the Governor and Legislature of California:

I can not too strongly urge upon the State the purchase of the Bancroft collection of Pacific Coast books and manuscripts. Aside from its wealth of historic material, which is of the liveliest interest to all Californians, the value and utility of the mass of original documents therein stored, has lately passed under my notice in a practical way.

In a suit recently tried in our United States Circuit Court, involving the title of the United States to the tract of land upon which our Navy Yard is located, and upon which the Government has expended millions of dollars, it was important

to have the signature of a certain Spanish document only to be found in Mr. Bancroft's collection.

This he courteously placed at my disposal

The desirability of having this collection kept in the State where reference can be had to it, is beyond question and I earnestly trust the purchase will be made.

Very respectfully,

S. G. Hilborn,
United States Attorney.